



# Archdiocesan Housing Authority

100 23rd Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98144-2302

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[ccsww.org](http://ccsww.org)

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AHA provides a continuum of care for homeless and low-income persons. Fifteen shelter and transitional programs offer a warm, safe refuge from the streets, providing homeless men, women and children a place to bathe, launder clothes, and receive medical attention, alcohol and drug treatment, and job counseling. AHA provides more than 1,500 affordable housing units in 28 programs, serving single persons, families, seniors and persons with special physical and mental needs throughout Western Washington.

## How is your contribution invested?

### Affordable Housing and Homeless Services

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There is a clear sense in AHA that we meet the people we serve right where they are, not where we wish they were. It is this affirmation of the individual's dignity that is the basis for our work and community. Our programs are a place to instill hope, an opportunity to consider what other possibilities there are for a person's life. We walk with our residents, inviting them to direct their energy and gifts toward the challenges and the issues that have contributed to their homelessness, and to move to a more stable living situation.

### The Refugee Assistance Program

The mission of the Refugee Assistance Program is "To assist refugees, immigrants and their families in attaining self-sufficiency through advocacy, education and employment. This is achieved through resettlement services, employment assistance, English language instruction referral, citizenship preparation, and youth and family support." Since 1975, the RAP has assisted more than 25,000 refugees and immigrants in Western Washington attain these goals. The Refugee Assistance program consists of the following:

- **The Refugee Resettlement Program** assists in the resettlement of both family reunification and free case refugees in cooperation with the United States Catholic Conference. Services provided include appropriate housing location, case management, English language services and referrals, employment, and youth and family support activities. Approximately 150 refugees are resettled through this program each year. The Resettlement program also assists private individuals in completing a variety of immigration documents.
- **The Match Grant Employment Program** provides employment services for newly arriving refugees and asylees.
- **The US Citizenship Program** advises and assists those people applying for U.S. citizenship/naturalization completing the appropriate forms and documents, requesting fee and disability waivers; and navigating the complex system of the INS. The project also conducts community outreach to enhance awareness of the benefits of citizenship, and to encourage people to apply for it. More than 200 people are served annually.
- **The International Youth Group** is comprised of refugee children ages 5 to 18. Group members participate in holiday festivities, bowling nights, and pizza socials; they also gather together to discuss more serious issues such as educational opportunities, career paths and their own experiences assimilating into American society. Interested youth are also matched with mentors or tutors to work one-to-one. The group also began a summer camp in 2000 at Seattle's Camp Long.

## Homelessness in Washington State: The Facts

The majority are unaccompanied adults, but the number of homeless families is growing:

- 66% are single adults, and of these, three-quarters are men
- 11% are parents with children, 84% of whom are single women
- 23% are children under 18 with a parent, 42% of whom are under 5 years of age

People who are homeless also have high rates of other background characteristics:

- 23% are veterans (compared to 13% of the general population)
- 25% were physically or sexually abused as children
- 27% were in foster care or institutions as children
- 21% were homeless as children
- 54% were incarcerated at some point of their lives

## Affordable Housing in Washington State: The Facts

- In Washington, an extremely low income household (earning \$19,251, 30% of the Area Median Income of \$64,171 ) can afford monthly rent of no more than \$481, while the Fair Market Rent for a two bedroom unit is \$745.
- A minimum wage earner (earning \$7.16 per hour ) can afford monthly rent of no more than \$372.
- An SSI recipient (receiving \$564 monthly ) can afford monthly rent of more than \$169, while the Fair Market Rent for a one-bedroom unit is \$605.
- In Washington, a worker earning the Minimum Wage ( \$7.16 per must work 80 hours per week in order to afford a two-bedroom unit at the area's Fair Market rent.

**The Housing Wage in Washington is \$14.32.** This is the amount a full time ( 40 hours per week ) worker must earn per hour in order to afford a two-bedroom unit at the area's Fair Market rent.

## Refugees in Washington State: The Facts

Refugees must rebuild their lives from traumatic and tragic circumstances.

The majority embrace their newly adopted homeland with tremendous energy and success. They go on to work, attend universities, build professions, purchase homes, raise children and contribute to their communities. Ultimately refugees obtain citizenship and become fully participating members of society. They become Americans. Since 1976, more than 17,000 refugees from 30 countries have resettled in the area.



## PARTNER NONPROFITS

Frye Human Services  
223 Yesler Way  
Seattle, WA 98104

Giving Tree  
2008 Westlake Ave  
Seattle, WA 98121

Lazarus Day Center  
416 2nd Ave Ext S  
Seattle, WA 98104

Matt Talbot Center  
2313 3rd Ave  
Seattle, WA 98121

Noel House  
2301 2nd Ave  
Seattle, WA 98121

Refugee Assistance Program  
4250 Mead Street  
Seattle, WA 98118

Rose of Lima House  
120 Bell Street  
Seattle, WA 98121

Sacred Heart Shelter  
232 Warren Avenue North  
Seattle, WA 98109

St. Martin de Porres  
1561 Alaskan Way S.  
Seattle, WA 98134